

John Boehner
Chairman
8th District, Ohio

*House Meets at 2:00 p.m. for Legislative Business
(No Votes Before 5:00 p.m.)*

Anticipated Floor Action:

H.R. 3504—John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Authorization Act

H.R. 3808—Designating the Carl D. Pursell Post Office Building

H.R. 3630—Designating the Steven Schiff Post Office Building

H.R. 2798—Designating the Nancy B. Jefferson Post Office Building

**H.R. 2799—Designating the Reverend Milton R. Brunson Post Office
Building**

S. 1244—Religious Liberty and Charitable Donation Protection Act

H.R. 3433—Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Act



Bills Considered Under Suspension of the Rules

Floor Situation: The House will consider the following six bills under suspension of the rules as its first order of business today. Each is debatable for 40 minutes, may not be amended, and requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

H.R. 3504—John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Authorization Act authorizes \$146 million for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts over the next five years through FY 2003, including \$59 million for operations, maintenance, and security, as well as \$87 million for capital projects that address needed improvements and renovations. Specifically, the measure increases the authorization level for maintenance, repair, and security for FY 1999 from \$12 million to \$13 million, and authorizes \$14 million for FYs 2000-2001 and \$15 million for FYs 2002-2003. In addition, the measure increases the authorization level for capital improvements in FY 1999 from \$9 million to \$20 million, and authorizes \$20 million in FYs 2000-2001, \$19 million in FY 2002, and \$17 million in FY 2003. CBO estimates that enactment will provide additional authorizations of \$146 million for FYs 1999-2003. The bill was introduced by Mr. Shuster *et al.*; the Transportation Committee reported the bill by voice vote on May 6, 1998.

H.R. 3803 names the federal post office building located at 47526 Clipper Drive in Plymouth, Michigan, after Carl D. Pursell. The bill was introduced by Mr. Upton on May 7, 1998, and was reported by the Government Reform & Oversight Committee by voice vote on May 21, 1998.

H.R. 3630 names the federal post office building located at 9719 Candelaria Road NE. in Albuquerque, New Mexico, after Steve Schiff. The bill was introduced by Mr. Burton on April 1, 1998, and was reported by the Government Reform & Oversight Committee by voice vote on May 21, 1998.

H.R. 2798 names the federal post office building located at 2419 West Monroe Street in Chicago, Illinois, after Nancy B. Jefferson. The bill was introduced by Mr. Davis (IL) on November 4, 1997, and was reported by the Government Reform & Oversight Committee by voice vote on May 21, 1998.

H.R. 2799 names the federal post office building located at 324 South Laramie Street in Chicago, Illinois, after Reverend Milton R. Brunson. The bill was introduced by Mr. Davis (IL) on November 4, 1997, and was reported by the Government Reform & Oversight Committee by voice vote on May 21, 1998.

S. 1244—Religious Liberty and Charitable Donation Protection Act protects certain charitable contributions made by an individual to religious or charitable organizations within one year of the individual's filing for bankruptcy in order to receive relief from outstanding debts, as allowed under the U.S. Code. The bill also protects recipient organizations and charities from having to return such donations, or defend themselves against being forced to return them, to the contributors in order to avoid being implicated in a fraudulent asset transfer under the Internal Revenue Code.

The Senate measure is virtually identical to H.R. 2604, a bill reported by the House Judiciary Committee. Mr. Hyde, or a designee, will offer a motion during floor consideration to substitute the text of S. 1244 in place of H.R. 2604. The text of S. 1244 will make two changes to the House measure, including (1) changing the year in the title of the bill from 1997 to 1998; and (2) prohibiting the use of state laws to require religious and other charitable organizations to return contributions made by people who file bankruptcy. The House measure currently prohibits such returns based on federal law but leaves the state law option unaddressed; this change is intended to ensure the highest protections for religious and charitable organizations under both federal and state laws regarding donations they receive from bankruptcy filers. CBO estimates that enactment will have no impact on the federal budget. H.R. 2604 was introduced by Mr. Packard. The Judiciary Committee ordered H.R. 2604 reported by voice vote on May 14, 1998, but did not consider its Senate companion, S. 1244.

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVII, #14, May 29, 1998.



H.R. 3433—Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Act

Floor Situation: The House will consider H.R. 3433 after it completes consideration of the scheduled suspensions. On Friday, the Rules Committee granted a modified closed rule providing one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Ways & Means Committee. The rule makes in order a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute as base text. It

also makes in order an amendment if offered by Mr. Rangel or his designee, and provides for one hour of debate on the amendment. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Summary: H.R. 3433 creates a program to allow disabled beneficiaries of certain Social Security and disability benefits to work outside of their homes and be self-sufficient. Beneficiaries also may receive vocational rehabilitation and other support services from a network of providers or select them using a newly created “Ticket to Work” provider subscription network. The bill also makes several technical and perfecting amendments to current law governing Social Security benefits. CBO estimates that enactment will decrease federal spending by \$38 million over five years. H.R. 3433 was introduced by Mr. Bunning and Mrs. Kennelly and was reported by the Ways & Means Committee by voice vote on May 6, 1998.

Views: The Republican Leadership strongly supports this measure, and the bill enjoys bipartisan support of the membership of the Ways & Means Committee. A Clinton Administration view was unavailable at press time.

Amendments: At press time, the *Legislative Digest* was unaware of any amendments that will be offered to H.R. 3433.

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVII, #14, May 29, 1998.



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House REPUBLICAN Conference Amendment Alert!

Please attach the text of the amendment (if available) and fax to the *Legislative Digest* at x5-7298

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8th District, Ohio

Member Sponsoring Amendment: _____ Bill #: _____

Additional Co-sponsors (if any): _____

Staff Contact: _____ Phone #: _____ Evening Phone #: _____

Description of the amendment: _____

(Please include any additional or contextual information)

Reason for offering amendment (e.g., How will this change the bill or current law? Why should members support this change?): _____

Legislative Digest reserves the right to edit descriptions for style, readability, and provisional accuracy.

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